



ALT-OCBL GRAND FINAL BULLETIN

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SELIGMAN ARE LEADING

After the first 4 Rounds, team Seligman are leading the ranking. The American-Polish connection (M. Seligman, J. Pszczola, M. Kwiecien, W. Starkowski) scored 54.64 VPs, which added to the 4 VPs carryover.

They are followed by teams Pomodoro (H. Setton, P. Franceschetti, C. Lorenzini, A. Versace, A. Sementa) and Coconut (Wang D., Deng X., Gu J., Huang N., Leung S.). Today 4 more rounds will be played. After that, the first 4 teams will play the Semifinals.



Ranking After Round 4

	1	Seligman	58.64
	2	Pomodoro	51.02
	3	Coconut	49.48
	4	Pioneers	45.09
	5	Greenberg	44.38
	6	Ukraine	43.69
	7	Harris	38.39
	8	Uli	36.66
	9	Netbridge	29.61
	10	Internazionale	21.04

RESULTS:

<https://ocbl.org/2023-alt-ocbl-grand-final/#results>

LINE-UPS:

<http://lineup.ocbl.org/event/38>

BULLETINS:

<https://ocbl.org/ocbl-journal>



Rounds 1 & 2

by Mark Horton

Round 1: Action Stations!

The first round of the ALT-OCBL Grand Final was not short of exciting deals. Here is an all-too-brief survey of some of them.

Board 2 Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ Q 10		
	♥ 6		
	♦ A K J 7 3 2		
	♣ J 10 3 2		
♠ K J 9 7 5 4		♠ A 8 6 3	
♥ A Q J		♥ 7 5 2	
♦ 8 6 5		♦ Q 10 4	
♣ 7		♣ Q 5 4	
	♠ 2		
	♥ K 10 9 8 4 3		
	♦ 9		
	♣ A K 9 8 6		

Coconut v Greenberg

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>T Edis</i>	<i>Deng</i>	<i>E Edis</i>	<i>Wang</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♦	2♠	3♣
3♠	5♣	All Pass	

So far as the bidding is concerned, South adhered to the old adage, '6-5 come alive' and he caught his partner with an almost ideal hand.

West led the ♠9 and East won with the ♠A and switched to the ♥5, West winning with the jack and playing the ♠K. Declarer ruffed, ruffed a heart, played the ♣10 to the ace, ruffed a heart with the ♣J and played a club to the eight, +600. Not a bad way to start the tournament!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gu</i>	<i>Tokay</i>	<i>Ning</i>	<i>Greenberg</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♦	3♥*	Pass
3♠	All Pass		
3♥	Spade raise		

North led the ♥6 for the king and ace, and declarer drew trumps and eventually collected a diamond trick to get up to 10, +170 and a 13 IMP swing.

I remind you that when you have a six-card major that partner freely supports you are supposed, according to the Life-Master of the Universe (Jeff Meckstroth) supposed to bid game.

However, there are exceptions to every rule and here and you are opposite a passed partner. North can start with three rounds of diamonds, easily defeating the spade game.

Pomodoro v Netbridge

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donk</i>	<i>Franceschetti</i>	<i>v Roosmalen</i>	<i>Setton</i>
—	—	Pass	2♦*
2♠	Pass	3♠	All Pass
2♦	Multi		

Three rounds of diamonds restricted declarer to nine tricks, +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Bouwen</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>vandenHoek</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
1♠	Dble*	3♥*	4♣
4♥	5♣	All Pass	
3♥	Mixed raise		

West led the ♠7 and East took the ace and returned the ♠3, declarer ruffing and cashing the top clubs. His next move was a diamond to dummy's jack, and he finished three down, -300, a loss of 4 IMPs.

Pioneers v Uli

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Romano</i>	<i>H Yang</i>	<i>Zanasi</i>	<i>Song</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♦*	2♠	3♣
3♠	4♣	All Pass	

2♦ Fewer than 13 points

Two rounds of spades saw declarer ruff, play a diamond to the ace and a heart for the eight and jack. Declarer took the diamond return with dummy's king, ruffed a diamond, cashed the top clubs, ruffed a heart and played the ♦J, claiming, +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fang</i>	<i>Primavera</i>	<i>T Yang</i>	<i>Schuster</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
1♠	Dble	3♣*	4♣
4♠	5♣	All Pass	
3♣	Mixed raise with 4♠		

Declarer ruffed the second spade and cashed the top clubs, going two down, -200 and losing 8 IMPs.

Seligman v Internazionale

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sada</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Zoranovic</i>	<i>Seligman</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♦	3♠	All Pass

North led the ♦K but then switched to the ♥6, declarer collecting 10 tricks, +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Camerini</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Di Lorio</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♦	2♠	3♥
3♠	Pass	Pass	4♥
Dble	All Pass		

Two rounds of spades saw declarer ruff, play a

diamond to the ace and a heart for the king and ace. When West returned the ♦5 declarer tried dummy's jack, ruffed the ♦Q and played the ♥10. West won and went back to spades after which declarer had only six tricks, four down, -1100 and a 14 IMP loss.

Board 5 Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ 9 2		
	♥ 6 2		
	♦ K Q 5 3		
	♣ K 8 7 5 3		
♠ A K Q J 8 5 3		♠ 10 7 6 4	
♥ A J 10 3		♥ 5 4	
♦ —		♦ J 10 8 6 4	
♣ K 6		♣ 9 2	
	♠ —		
	♥ K Q 9 8 7		
	♦ A 9 7 2		
	♣ A Q 10 4		

Coconut v Greenberg

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>T Edis</i>	<i>Deng</i>	<i>E Edis</i>	<i>Wang</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
Dble	Pass	1♠	Dble
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

South led the ♥K and declarer took dummy's ace, drew trumps and played the ♥J. South won and exited with a heart, so a club went away, +690.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gu</i>	<i>Tokay</i>	<i>Ning</i>	<i>Greenberg</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble*
Pass	4NT*	5♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	
Dble	Takeout		
4NT	Takeout		

North led the ♠2 and having won with dummy's ♠7 declarer played a heart for the queen and ace. A spade to dummy's ten was followed by a heart and South won and played the ♣A followed by the ♣Q, one down, -100 and 13 IMPs.

Pomodoro v Netbridge

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donk</i>	<i>Franceschetti</i>	<i>van Roosmalen</i>	<i>Setton</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
4♠	All Pass		

Declarer took 11 tricks, +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Bouwen</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>vandenHoek</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
3NT*	Pass	4♠	Dble
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Dble	Pass	5♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

South led the ♥K and declarer won, cashed the ♠A and then played the ♥10. South won and played two rounds of clubs, -100 and 11 IMPs.

Notice that 6♣ by South is unbeatable!

Pioneers v Uli

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Romano	H Yang		ZanasiSong
—	Pass	Pass	1♣*
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4NT*	5♠	Dble
All Pass			

1♣ 15+
4NT 2 suits

A heart for the queen and ace saw declarer cash the ♠A, cross to dummy with the ♠10 and play a heart. South won, cashed the ♣A but then tried the ♦A and that was -650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fang	Primavera	T Yang	Schuster
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
4♠	All Pass		

The early play was identical but here South played two rounds of clubs, +420 but a 6 IMP loss.

Seligman v Internazionale

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sada	Pszczola	Zoranovic	Seligman
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	5♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

4NT Takeout

The defenders made no mistake, scoring a heart and two clubs, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	Camerini	Kwiecien	Di Lorio
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
4♠	All Pass		

Here too the defenders took their tricks, but +420 was worth 11 IMPs.

Harris v Ukraine

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Karlykov	Tiholov	Trifonov	M Gold
—	Pass	Pass	1♣*
4♠	Pass*	6♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

1♣ 16+
Pass Forcing

Declarer ruffed the lead of the ♦K, drew trumps ending in dummy and played a heart for the queen and ace. That was a rapid two down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Harris	Zuban	Malhasyan	Lukke
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4NT*	5♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Stopping a level lower was worth 5 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A J 7 3		♠ 5
♥ K 9 2		♥ 10 8 4 3
♦ 10 9		♦ A 7 5 3 2
♣ A K 9 5		♣ 10 6 2
♠ K 9		♠ Q 10 8 6 4 2
♥ Q 7 6 5		♥ A J
♦ Q 4		♦ K J 8 6
♣ Q J 8 7 3		♣ 4

Coconut v Greenberg

Open Room

West	North	East	South
T Edis	Deng	E Edis	Wang
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

1NT Artificial game force
2♣ 4+♦
2♦ Asking
2♠ 6+♠
3NT Non-serious slam try
4♣ Cue
4♦ Cue
4♥ Last train
5♥ Cue, should be short club as well

West led the ♣J and declarer won in dummy, ruffed a club, negotiated the trump suit, pitched a diamond on the ♣K, ruffed a club, played two rounds of hearts and a diamond to the king, +1430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gu	Tokay	Ning	Greenberg
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

3NT Mild slam interest
4♣ Cue
4♦ Cue
4♥ Cue

West led the ♣7 and declarer won with dummy's ace and cashed the ♠A, finishing with 10 tricks when he lost two diamonds, +620 but the third 13 IMP swing of the match.

Pomodoro v Netbridge

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Donk	Franceschetti	van Roosmalen	Setton
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Declarer managed 12 tricks, +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Bouwen	Sementa	vandenHoek
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Here declarer took 11 tricks, +650 costing an IMP.

Pioneers v Uli

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Romano	H Yang	Zanasi	Song
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2NT Jacoby
3♣ Short
3NT Non-serious slam try

Declarer took 11 tricks, +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fang	Primavera	T Yang	Schuster
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2NT Game forcing, 4+♠
3♠ Minimum

There was no swing.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ K 8 4		♠ 5
♥ 10 8 2		♥ K Q J 9 6
♦ J 9		♦ K Q 10 5 2
♣ J 10 9 4 2		♣ 8 3
♠ A Q J 10 9 7 6 3		♠ 2
♥ A 7 3		♥ 5 4
♦ —		♦ A 8 7 6 4 3
♣ K 6		♣ A Q 7 5

Coconut v Greenberg

Open Room

West	North	East	South
T Edis	Deng	E Edis	Wang
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Dble
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5NT*	Pass	6♠	All Pass

2♣ Strong, always unbalanced, may be trick based
2♦ Game forcing relay
4NT RKCB
5NT Even number of keycards and a void

North led the ♦J for the king, ace and a ruff and declarer played a heart to dummy's king and a spade to the queen. North won and switched to the ♣9, one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gu	Tokay	Ning	Greenberg
1♠	Pass	1NT	2♦
4♠	All Pass		

An identical first trick saw declarer cash the ♠A at trick two and continue with the ♠9. When North ducked declarer went to dummy with a heart and pitched two clubs on diamonds, +480 and 11 IMPs.

Pomodoro v Netbridge

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donk</i>	<i>Franceschetti</i>	<i>van Roosmalen</i>	<i>Setton</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

North led the ♣J, one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Bouwen</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>vandenHoek</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass
2NT	3♥ or 16+	5332	
3♦	5♥+5♦		

It looks like 4♣ and 4♦ were cue bids, but when East went on with 4♠ West let matters rest. Declarer took 11 tricks, +450 and 11 IMPs.

Pioneers v Uli

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Romano</i>	<i>H Yang</i>	<i>Zanasi</i>	<i>Song</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	2NT*
4♦	5♣	Dble	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

2NT Minors

North led the ♣J and South won and switched to the ♠2, declarer losing two tricks, +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fang</i>	<i>Primavera</i>	<i>T Yang</i>	<i>Schuster</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♦*	Pass
5NT*	Pass	7NT	Dble
All Pass			
4♦	Cue		
4NT	RKCB		
5♦	0/3 keycards		
5NT	Grand slam try		

It was perhaps unlucky that East, having made a cue bid in support of spades did not have any keycards, but you will observe that he had gone past the club suit, so there was a strong inference that he might have been cue bidding a second-round control.

The way to resolve this type of problem is to bid 5♠, partner being expected to bid on holding three keycards.

North led the ♥2 (a club would have rubbed salt into the wound) and declarer won in dummy and took the spade finesse, finishing three down, -500 and a 14 IMP swing.

Round 2: Second Helpings

At this time of year, it is not uncommon to overindulge a little. With that in mind here is a short report on the second round.

Board 1 Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 9			
♥ Q J 8 6 4 3 2			
♦ A J 9 3			
♣ 10			
♠ K 4		♠ Q J 10 8 5 3 2	
♥ 10 9 7		♥ —	
♦ 8 5 2		♦ 6 4	
♣ A J 6 5 4		♣ Q 9 8 2	
♠ A 7 6			
♥ A K 5			
♦ K Q 10 7			
♣ K 7 3			

Coconut v Pomodoro

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Deng</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Wang</i>
—	4♥	4♠	4NT*
5♣	5♦*	6♣	6♥
All Pass			

Whatever the intention of 4NT (it looks like a keycard ask) 5♦ was explained as natural. No matter, the final contract was stone cold, +980.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gu</i>	<i>Franceschetti</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Setton</i>
—	4♥	4♠	6♥
6♠	Dble	All Pass	

Not so easy for South to push on to 6NT. 6♠ doubled was two down, -300 and a 12 IMP pickup.

Only four more IMPs were scored in this match, all of them going to Coconut, who won 16-0 – a very rare shutout.

Uli v Green Berg

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>T Edis</i>	<i>Primavera</i>	<i>E Edis</i>	<i>Schuster</i>
—	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

It must have come as a disappointment to South to discover there were only three defensive tricks, -590.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zanasi</i>	<i>Tokay</i>	<i>Romano</i>	<i>Greenberg</i>
—	4♥	4♠	4NT*
Dble	5♦	Pass	6♥
Dble	Pass	6♠	Dble
All Pass			
4NT	Heart raise		

There were three tricks to lose, -300, an excellent save in theory, but a 13 IMP loss in practice.

Netbridge v Seligman

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Seligman</i>	<i>Bouwen</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>vandenHoek</i>
—	4♥	4♠	5♥
5♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

That was one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donk</i>	<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>v Roosmalen</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>
—	3♥	4♠	5♥
5♠	Dble	All Pass	

No swing.

Ukraine v Pioneers

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Liu</i>	<i>Dragan</i>	<i>Han</i>	<i>Shukhmeyster</i>
—	4♥	4♠	5♣*
Dble	Pass	Pass	5♦*
5♠	Pass	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	6♠	Dble
5♣	Cue, 1-3-5 keycards		
5♦	Cue		

Declarer took the regulation 10 tricks, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Karlykov</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Trifonov</i>	<i>Fang</i>
—	4♥	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

That meant -590 and a 13 IMP loss.

Internazionale v Harris

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Harris</i>	<i>Camerini</i>	<i>Malhasyan</i>	<i>Di Lorio</i>
—	4♥	4♠	5♥
All Pass			

A routine +480.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sada</i>	<i>Tiholov</i>	<i>Schroeder</i>	<i>M Gold</i>
—	4♥	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

South led the ♥A and declarer ruffed, played a spade to the king and a spade to the eight, South winning and switching to diamonds. Declarer ruffed the third round of the suit, played some trumps and then tried a club to the jack. That meant there was club to lose, -100 but a 9 IMP gain.

Board 7 Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 6 4 2			
♥ 8 7			
♦ K J 10 5			
♣ 6 5 4 3			
♠ A J 10 3		♠ K Q 8	
♥ J 9 2		♥ K 10 6 5	
♦ 6		♦ A 9 8 3	
♣ J 10 9 7 2		♣ A Q	
♠ 9 7 5			
♥ A Q 4 3			
♦ Q 7 4 2			
♣ K 8			

Uli v Green Berg

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>T Edis</i>	<i>Primavera</i>	<i>E Edis</i>	<i>Schuster</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

2NT Might have a spade fit

South led the ♡3 and declarer won with the ♡10 and played two rounds of clubs, South winning and cashing the ♡A which gave declarer 11 tricks, +660.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zanasi	Tokay	Romano	Greenberg
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♡	Pass	3NT*	All Pass

- 2♣ Strong or balanced 18/19 or 22/23
- 2♦ Waiting
- 2NT 18/19
- 3♣ Stayman
- 3♦ At least 1 major
- 3♡ 4♠

Armed with the knowledge that East had four hearts South led the ♦2 and the contract was doomed. Declarer took the third round of the suit, went to dummy by overtaking the ♠K and ran the ♡J, South cashing out for one down, -100 and 13 IMPs.

Netbridge v Seligman

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Seligman	Bouwen	Pszczola	vandenHoek
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the ♡3 and when dummy's jack held declarer played a club to the queen and king. Back came the ♡4 and declarer claimed 11 tricks, +660.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donk	Starkowski	v Roosmalen	Kwiecien
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣*	Dble
1♡*	Pass	1♠*	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

- 1♣ 1+♣, non-forcing
- 1♡ Spades
- 1♠ 3♠

South led the ♦2 and declarer won with the ace, ruffed a diamond and took the club finesse, South winning and exiting with the ♣8. Declarer won, ruffed a diamond and ran the ♡J, South playing three rounds of the suit for two down, -200 and 13 IMPs.

The double dummy line to make 4♠ is to come to hand with the ♣A at trick four, ruff a diamond, overtake the ♠J, ruff a diamond and exit with a club. South wins, but cannot prevent declarer from scoring 10 tricks.

Even that becomes impossible if South leads a trump at trick one.

Ukraine v Pioneers

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liu	Dragan	Han	Shukhmeyster
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♦*	1NT	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♡	All Pass

- 1♦ 0-11 without 4♡/♠ or 0-7 any
- 2♣ Stayman

2♡ was a comfortable spot, declarer ruffing three diamonds in dummy and emerging with 10 tricks, +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karlykov	Yang	Trifonov	Fang
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣*	Dble
Rdbl	1♦	Dble	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♦2 and declarer was soon one down, -100 to lose 7 IMPs,

Internazionale v Harris

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harris	Camerini	Malhasyan	Di Lorio
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣*	Dble
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

- 1♣ 2+♣
- 3♦ Forced

South found the deadly diamond lead, ensuring the demise of the contract. Declarer took the ace and played two rounds of clubs which allowed the defenders to take six tricks, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sada	Tiholov	Schroeder	M Gold
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	Pass	1NT	All Pass

South led the ♦4 and declarer won, cashed four spades and played a club to the queen. She could not be denied seven tricks, +90 and 7 IMPs.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 10 8 6 4			
♡ K 9			
♦ K 7 6 5 2			
♣ K 8			
♠ Q 9 7 3		♠ A J 5 2	
♡ —		♡ A Q J 10 6 5	
♦ A J 10 9 8 4		♦ 3	
♣ Q J 3		♣ 6 2	
	♠ K		
	♡ 8 7 4 3 2		
	♦ Q		
	♣ A 10 9 7 5 4		

Uli v Green Berg

Open Room

West	North	East	South
T Edis	Primavera	E Edis	Schuster
—	Pass	1♡	Pass
1♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

North led the ♣K and continued with the ♣8, South winning and switching to the ♦Q. Declarer took dummy's ace and played a spade for the jack and king. He won the heart return with dummy's ace and cashed the ♠A getting the bad news. He continued with top hearts, North ruffing and playing the ♦5. When declarer ruffed it in dummy he was two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zanasi	Tokay	Romano	Greenberg
—	Pass	1♡	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

North led the ♦2 for the queen and ace and declarer ran the ♦J discarding a club. South ruffed with the ♠K and switched to a heart for the nine and ten, declarer cashing the ♠A, crossing to the ♠Q and running the ♦8. Nort cover the

♦10 and declarer ruffed, cashed the ♠J and the ♡A and then pitched his remaining club on the ♡Q, +650 and 13 IMPs.

Netbridge v Seligman

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Seligman	Bouwen	Pszczola	v den Hoek
—	2♦*	2♡	All Pass

2♦ Weak, 5+♦

South led the Q and declarer won in dummy, ran the ♦J pitching a club, as did South and then played a spade to the jack and king. Two rounds of clubs saw declarer ruff and he played the ♡A followed by the ♡10, North winning and returning the ♦K which held declarer to eight tricks, +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donk	Starkowski	v Roosmalen	Kwiecien
—	Pass	1♡	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♡	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Three rounds of clubs saw declarer win and run the ♠Q. He eventually finished four down to lose 400 along with 11 IMPs.

Ukraine v Pioneers

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liu	Dragan	Han	Shukhmeyster
—	Pass	1♡	2♣
Dble*	2♦	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South led the ♦Q to dummy's ace, won the next trick with the ♠K over dummy's jack and switched to the ♣5, three rounds of clubs seeing North ruff and declarer overruff with the ♠A. North still had a trump trick so -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karlykov	Yang	Trifonov	Fang
—	Pass	1♡	2♣
Dble*	2♦	2♠	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Declarer won the diamond lead with dummy's ace and played a spade to the ace, collecting South's king. It was plain sailing from here, declarer taking 10 tricks, +170 and 7 IMPs.

Internazionale v Harris

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harris	Camerini	Malhasyan	Di Lorio
—	Pass	1♡	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♡	All Pass

Declarer won the diamond lead with dummy's ace and played a spade to the jack and king. Two rounds of clubs put North on lead and the ♦5 was ruffed by the ♡5 and overruffed. North ruffed the club return with the ♡9 and declarer overruffed and cashed the ♡A. At this point one down looks likely, but South ruffed a losing spade near the end so declarer scored +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sada	Tiholov	Schroeder	M Gold
—	Pass	1♡	2♣
Dble	Rdbl*	4♠	All Pass

Rdbl Points

Declarer took the ♦Q in dummy and played a spade to the jack and king. Two rounds of clubs ensured one down and when declarer lost a trick to the ♡K that was -200 and a 7 IMP loss.



Bridge NEWS

2024 World Bridge Games



From the World Bridge Federation Website

The WBF is pleased to advise that the next World Bridge Games (formerly the “Bridge Olympiad”) will be held at the Centro de Convenciones de Buenos Aires, Argentina with the **Opening Ceremony on 22nd October and play from the 23rd October up to and including the 5th November 2024.**

WBF Online Survey

From the World Bridge Federation Website

The WBF is conducting a survey exploring what types of leisure activities people do and why.

The link to the survey is: <https://pip.surveymonkey.com/r/DKJW93X>

There is also an article about it on Bridge Winners:

<https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/leisure-activities-survey/>



The survey is aimed primarily at bridge players of all levels, and will help us get a better understanding of why different groups of people around the world like and play bridge, and how bridge compares to other activities that bridge players and potential bridge players like to do.

This will help administrators, teachers and promoters design better ways to get people into bridge, and to stay in bridge.

Thank you!

*Ben Thompson,
WBF 1st Vice President and Chair Marketing & Communications Committee*

World Bridge Tour



From the World Bridge Federation Website

The WBT was conceived based on an idea by Jan Kamras, the current WBF President, already in 2018. Its launch was approved by the Executive Council in 2019. We all know what then happened – the worldwide Covid pandemic which all but stopped international face-to-face bridge and consequently also the launch of the WBT.

As international bridge is now back up and running we are launching the Tour with a “dry run” season in 2023, with the intention to go “live” in 2024. During the dry run we will have the possibility to evaluate all aspects of the WBT, whether it concerns the events included, their categorisation or the respective Tour Ranking Point (“TRP”) scales. All designations for this season should therefore be considered as being preliminary, and may be adjusted where deemed necessary before going live.

The WBT events will be split into four Categories, allowing us to preliminarily also include events where we are uncertain of whether or not they will ultimately qualify for inclusion. A number of events have been preselected for inclusion. Organisers of other Open events with international participation, which they believe fulfill the requirements, are welcome to apply for inclusion by email to:

worldbridgetour@worldbridgefed.com. Several organisers have already applied, and some have been approved. The listing of events under the menu item “Events and Results” reflects the status as of February 28 2023, and events can still be added.

The detailed regulations, events and TRP scales are described in the website:

<http://championships.worldbridge.org/world-bridge-tour>



Online
Contract
Bridge
League

OCBL JANUARY CUP

16 - 18 January, 2024



12 Rounds x 8 Boards

Tuesday, 16 January

R1 - R4

CEST 16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30

EDT 10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

Wednesday, 17 January

R5 - R8

CEST 16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30

EDT 10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

Thursday, 18 January

R9 - R12, SF/F

CEST 16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30

EDT 10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

To follow:



FEBRUARY CUP

27 - 29 February, 2024

Info and pre-registration: WWW.OCBL.ORG

ALT INVITATIONAL



world class online bridge events

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2024

8 - 11 January 2024	Alt Event - TBA
12 - 15 February 2024	Alt Event - TBA
4 - 7 March 2024	Alt Event - TBA
8 - 11 April 2024	Alt Event - TBA
13 - 16 May 2024	Alt Event - TBA
10 - 13 June 2024	Alt Event - TBA
8 - 11 July 2024	Alt Event - TBA
12 - 15 August 2024	Alt Event - TBA
9 - 12 September 2024	Alt Event - TBA
7 - 10 October 2024	Alt Event - TBA
11 - 14 November 2024	Alt Event - TBA
16 - 19 December 2024	Alt Event - TBA